

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1 to 17 canceled.

Enter new claims 18 to 44.

18. (New) A system for specifying at least one sensor holder for the creation of an image of an object, said sensor holder supporting a digital sensor of a dental X-ray apparatus, comprising

- an input and display device for interactive control of the system, wherein a schematic image of the object to be X-rayed can be displayed on the display device,
- means for selecting one of the sensor holder and the sensor for creating the desired image of the object, and
- a processing unit for automatically generating the schematic image for the selected sensor holder on the basis of the desired image of the object and for displaying said schematic image on the display device.

19. (New) A system for specifying at least one sensor holder for the creation of an image of an object, wherein the sensor holder supports a digital sensor of dental X-ray apparatus, comprising

- an input and display device for interactive control of the system, the display device including a general image displayed containing a predetermined number of possible objects to be X-rayed,
- means for selecting the object to be X-rayed with reference to the general image, and
- a processing unit, in which different sensor holders and, optionally, associated sensors are stored in storage areas, and which automatically selects a suitable sensor holder and, optionally, an associated sensor on the basis of the desired image of the object and displays the same on the display device.

20. (New) A system as defined in claim 18, wherein the image comprises a digital X-ray image for viewing an area of the object to be imaged when the selected sensor holder is used.

21. (New) A system as defined in claim 19, wherein the image comprises a digital X-ray image for viewing an area of the object to be imaged when the selected sensor holder is used.

22. (New) A system as defined in claim 20, wherein the selected area is highlighted in color.

23. (New) A system as defined in claim 21, where the selected area is high-lighted in color.

24. (New) A system as defined in claim 18, wherein a plurality of the sensor holders are provided, the processing unit displaying the plurality of sensor holders, which are differentiated by one of colors, symbols, and shapes.

25. (New) A system as defined in claim 19, wherein a plurality of the sensor holders are provided, the processing unit displaying the plurality of sensor holders, which are differentiated by one of colors, symbols, and shapes.

26. (New) A system as defined in claim 18, wherein the selecting means is effected semiautomatically by the provision of presenting means which permit the selection of a preset area of the object, a storage area being provided for various sensor holders, and comparative means to determine which suitable sensor holders can be specified.

27. (New) A system as defined in claim 19, wherein the selecting means is effected semiautomatically by the provision of presenting means which permit the selection of a preset area of the object, a storage area being provided for various sensor holders, and comparative means to determine which suitable sensor holders can be specified.

28. (New) A system as defined in claim 18, further comprising means which, following the selection of the sensor holder, transfer the selection data to the X-ray apparatus.

29. (New) A system as defined in claim 19, further comprising means which, following the selection of the sensor holder, transfer the selection data to the X-ray apparatus.

30. (New) A system as defined in claim 18, further comprising a PC controlled by software to realize desired functionality.

31. (New) A system as defined in claim 19, further comprising a PC controlled by software to realize desired functionality.

32. (New) X-ray apparatus comprising a computer interface for the reception of selected data transmitted by a system as defined in claim 18, wherein the X-ray apparatus has means for identifying one of the digital sensor and the sensor holder, comprising identifying means and for ascertaining whether a selected one of the sensor holder and sensor is used.

33. (New) X-ray apparatus comprising a computer interface for the reception of selected data transmitted by a system as defined in claim 19, wherein the X-ray apparatus has means, for identifying one of the digital sensor and the sensor holder

comprising identifying means and for ascertaining whether a selected one of the sensor holder and sensor is used.

34. (New) The X-ray apparatus defined in claim 32, wherein the X-ray apparatus is capable of not creating an image unless the correct combination of the sensor holder and the sensor is used.

35. (New) The X-ray apparatus defined in claim 33, wherein the X-ray apparatus is capable of not creating an image unless the correct combination of the sensor holder and the sensor is used.

36. (New) The X-ray apparatus as defined in claim 34, wherein said means comprise one of optical, electrical, and mechanical sensors.

37. (New) The X-ray apparatus as defined in claim 35, wherein said means comprise one of optical, electrical, and mechanical sensors.

38. (New) A method of specifying a sensor holder for the creation of an image of an object, wherein the sensor holder supports a digital sensor of dental X-ray apparatus, comprising

- a first step, in which the sensor holder is selected,

- a second step, in which the sensor is assigned to a sensor holder,
- a third step, in which a schematic image is computed, based on the position of the selected sensor holder and based on the sensor used, wherein it can be seen from the schematic image that area of the object that will be imaged when the selected sensor holder is used, and
- a fourth step, in which the schematic image thus generated is displayed in a general display and the area of the general display covered by the schematic image is optically highlighted.

39. (New) A method of specifying a sensor holder for the creation of an image of an object, wherein the sensor holder supports a digital sensor of dental X-ray apparatus, comprising

- a first step, in which a predetermined number of possible objects to be X-rayed is displayed in a general display,
- a second step, in which a predetermined number of objects to be X-rayed is selected from a plurality of objects shown in the general display, and
- a third step, in which a sensor holder and, optionally, an associated sensor is assigned to each of the objects to be X-rayed and a template is shown.

40. (New) A method as defined in claim 39, further comprising a fourth step, in which the template is moved across the general display for purposes of control and thus the imaging area appertaining to the template is revealed,

- wherein the third and fourth steps are iteratively continued until a suitable combination of holder and imaging area is displayed.

41. (New) A method as defined in claim 38, wherein the general display comprises an X-ray image and, the object to be X-rayed is selected from an X-ray image, preferably an X-ray image of the patient to be examined.

42. (New) A method as defined in claim 39, wherein the general display comprises an X-ray image and, the object to be X-rayed is selected from an X-ray image, preferably an X-ray image of the patient to be examined.

43. (New) A data medium, containing a data structure that is capable of running on a computer for carrying out the method as defined in claim 38 into effect.

44. (New) A data medium, containing a data structure that is capable of running on a computer for carrying out the method as defined in claim 39 into effect.